

WISCONSIN MEDICAID UPDATE

JUNE 17, 1998

UPDATE 98-18

TO:
HMOs and Other Managed Care
Programs
Ophthalmologists
Opticians
Optometrists

New Medicaid Vision (SPEC) Contractor - Effective April 1, 1998

Schmidt Laboratories, Inc. is the new Medicaid vision contractor

Effective April 1, 1998, the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) contracted with Schmidt Laboratories, Inc. to provide all Medicaid-covered eyeglasses and component parts.

eyeglasses and component parts directly from the DHFS-contracted provider.

Below is the new contractor's address, telephone number, and fax number.

Under the State Purchase Eyeglass Contract (SPEC), Wisconsin Medicaid vision care providers must order all Medicaid-covered

Schmidt Laboratories
P.O. Box 1264
St. Cloud, MN 56302
Phone (800) 962-5037
FAX (800) 801-2315

Vision handbook replacement pages enclosed

Enclosed you will find replacement pages for the sections of Part R, the vision care services handbook, that are affected by the change in contractors. These sections include:

- The first two pages of Section II, Covered Services & Related Limitations. These pages contain the address, telephone number, and fax number of Schmidt Laboratories.

- Appendix 2, which lists the lenses available through the new contractor.
- Appendix 3, which lists the frames available through the new contractor.

Please do not throw away your entire handbook. Remove only pages R2-001 through R2-002 and R5-011 through R5-014 from your current handbook. Replace these pages with the enclosed pages. See the table below.

REMOVE AND DESTROY	INSERT
Section II: Pages R2-001 through R2-002 issued 10/94	Section II: Pages R2-001 through R2-002 issued 06/98
Appendices: Pages R5-011 through R5-014 issued 10/94	Appendices: Pages R5-011 through R5-014 issued 06/98

POH 1606

Part R	Section II	Issued	Page
Vision Care Services	Covered Services & Related Limitations	6/98	R2-001

A. INTRODUCTION Section II of this handbook describes basic coverage and limitations on Wisconsin Medicaid vision procedures. Providers must familiarize themselves with this section in order to ensure that only covered services are rendered in compliance with all appropriate guidelines. Appendix 1 of this handbook contains a complete listing of all covered services.

Optometrists may be reimbursed for all procedures listed except that only Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agent (TPA)-certified optometrists may be reimbursed for procedures requiring TPA certification. Opticians may be reimbursed only for procedures pertaining to the dispensing and repair of eyeglasses.

Ophthalmologists may be reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid for all procedures listed in Appendix 1 of this handbook as well as Medicaid-covered services identified in the Physician's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT). Ophthalmologists are referred to the Physician Handbook, Part K, for additional information on covered services.

B. STATE PURCHASE EYEGLASS CONTRACT (SPEC) Under the State Purchase Eyeglass Contract (SPEC), all Wisconsin Medicaid-certified vision care providers must order all Medicaid-covered eyeglasses and component parts directly from the provider contracted with the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) to supply those services.

Effective with orders placed on and after April 1, 1998, Schmidt Laboratories, Inc. is the SPEC contractor. The address for the SPEC contractor is:

Schmidt Laboratories, Inc.
P.O. Box 1264
St. Cloud, MN 56302
Phone (800) 962-5037
FAX (800) 801-2315

Procedures for Ordering Materials

Vision care providers must order materials from the SPEC contractor on an order form supplied by the SPEC contractor. For SPEC billing information, refer to Section IV-E of this handbook.

Properly ordered materials, except in unforeseen or unusual circumstances, are expected to be shipped to providers by the SPEC contractor within six working days of receipt of the order. Providers should allow for mailing time for orders and materials when calculating an expected delivery date. If an order is not received within 14 days, providers should telephone the SPEC contractor. To expedite processing of orders, please type or clearly print all orders accurately and completely. Illegible orders will require additional processing time to clarify or return.

If within 30 days of delivery any material is found by the dispensing provider to be unsatisfactory due to the SPEC contractor's error, defective workmanship, or materials, the provider should return the materials and order form to the contractor. The SPEC contractor is required to adjust, correct, or replace the materials at the SPEC contractor's expense. The SPEC contractor is not liable for the cost of replacement orders required due to errors made by the prescribing or dispensing provider, nor for defective materials not reported within 30 days of delivery.

SPEC Lenses

The SPEC includes glass, plastic, and polycarbonate lenses for single vision, multifocal, and cataract lenses. Contracted lenses must conform to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) recommendation for prescription of ophthalmic lenses, ANSI Z80.1 - 1979, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requirements for impact-resistant lenses. Refer to Appendix 2 of this handbook for a list of lenses covered under the SPEC.

Part R Vision Care Services	Section II Covered Services & Related Limitations	Issued 6/98	Page R2-002
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**B. STATE PURCHASE
EYEGLASS
CONTRACT (SPEC)
(continued)**

SPEC Frames

The SPEC includes frames which meet ANSI Z80.5 - 1979 Standards. (Refer to Appendix 3 of this handbook for a list of SPEC-covered frames).

Wisconsin Medicaid vision care providers must purchase a sample kit of SPEC frames, although the SPEC contractor may provide some of these frames at no cost to providers. Sample kits are available from the contractor. Providers will not be reimbursed for materials included in sample kits. A sample kit can be ordered by writing to the SPEC contractor.

Ordering Partial Appliances

If a recipient requires new lenses only, the dispensing provider must, whenever possible, send the recipient's existing frames to the SPEC contractor with the lens order. Orders received by the contractor as "frame enclosed" must include:

- The actual frame or a machine-made pattern (not a hand tracing) with the order, if the frame enclosed is a new frame.
- The actual frame, if the frame enclosed is a used frame. Hand tracings or drawings are not acceptable.

Orders without the frame enclosed, or without a pattern for a new frame, may be returned to the ordering provider within three working days of receipt of the order with a written explanation as to why the order was not processed.

The lenses are then mounted in the recipient's frame. If, in the opinion of the SPEC contractor, the lenses cannot be mounted without damage to the frames, the SPEC contractor may:

- Return the frames with the unmounted lenses to the provider with a written explanation why the lenses were not mounted.
- Contact the provider by telephone so the provider may order a complete appliance from the SPEC contractor.

If a recipient has a metal frame, the frame must accompany the order for lenses.

If the recipient requires a new frame only, and the recipient's lenses do not fit a SPEC frame, a complete appliance must be ordered from the SPEC contractor.

Non-Contracted Materials/Out-of-State Providers/Out-of-State Foster Children

Prior authorization (PA) is required for all non-contracted vision items and for eyeglasses, frames, lenses, and components billed for out-of-state foster children and out-of-state providers. Refer to Section III of this handbook for PA requirements and to Section IV for billing instructions.

**C. EVALUATION
AND DIAGNOSTIC
SERVICES**

Evaluation and Management Services

Evaluation and Management, New Patient
Wisconsin Medicaid defines "new patient" as a patient who is new to the provider and whose medical and administrative records need to be established. Wisconsin Medicaid interprets this to be a new patient to either the physician or clinic. Wisconsin Medicaid allows one new patient procedure per recipient, per performing or billing provider, per lifetime.

Evaluation and Management, Visits

Only one office visit is allowed per date of service for a new or established patient, per performing provider.

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**Appendix 2
Lenses Available Through the
Wisconsin Medicaid State Purchase Eyeglass Contract**

Single Vision

Bifocals

- Flattop
- Round Top
- One Piece Flattop (Executive Style)

Trifocals

- Flattop
- One Piece Flattop (Executive Style)

Cataract Lenses - (Plastic Only)

Full Field Aspheric

- Single Vision
- Bifocal
 - Round Segment
 - Straight Top

Lenticular Aspheric

- Single Vision
- Bifocal
 - Round Segment
 - Straight Top

Non-Aspheric Lenticular

- Single Vision
- Bifocal
 - Round Segment
 - Straight Top

Lens Components in Addition to Lens Formula

Cylinders 3.25 to 6.00D	Large Blanks (59mm eye size & over)*
Polycarbonate Lenses**	Minus over 20.00D (add to 12.25 to 20.00D)
Cylinders 6.25 and above	Myodisc
Extra Thick Blanks	Photochromic (Photograys, etc.)*
High Index Glass or Plastic*	Tinted Eyeglass Lenses (rose tints 1 and 2)*
Slab Off Prism	Special Base Curve
Prism	Ultraviolet Protective Coating*

* These items require prior authorization before ordering from the SPEC contractor.

** This item requires prior authorization for recipients age 21 and over.

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Appendix 3
Frames Available Through State Purchase Eyeglass Contract

Women's Frames

Suburban 12 (Spring) (Ben Glo)
Mainstreet 220 (Hart Spec.)
Karen (Eye-Q)
Libby (Eye-Q)
Britain (Eye-Q)
SW-402 (Spring) (Eye-Q)
Jackie (Spring) (Eye-Q)
Echo (Eye-Q)
Justa-Fit 3 (Pathway)

Girls' Frames

Mainstreet 403 (Hart Spec.)
Pogo (Eye-Q)
Dawn (Spring) (US Eyewear)
Boulevard 3115 (Spring) (Hart Spec.)
Mainstreet 885 (Hart Spec.)
Laurel (Eye-Q)
Justa-Fit 4 (Pathway)

Infants' Frames

Toddle Goggle (Cable) (Pathway)

Unisex Half-Eye

Phoenix (Eye-Q)

Men's Frames

Mainstreet 302 (Hart Spec.)
Legend (Spring) (Eye-Q)
Gus (Spring) (Eye-Q)
Mainstreet 106 (Hart Spec.)
Boulevard 1003 (Hart Spec.)
Mainstreet 859 (Spring) (Hart Spec.)
Hunter (Limited Edition)
Passport 14 (Art-Craft)

Boys' Frames

Chad (Spring) (US Eyewear)
Baby (Hart Spec.)
York (Eye-Q)
Morgan (Eye-Q)
SW-201 (Eye-Q)
Mainstreet 304 (Spring) (Hart Spec.)
Starwalker (Martin Copeland)

Occupational Frames

SP 83 (Titmus)